

Alex Stapleton

From: John Anderson
Sent: Thursday, December 16, 2010 7:04 AM
To: John Anderson
Subject: Georgia News Release on Bombings
Attachments: GE Bombings PRESS RELEASE Dec 16 2010.doc; Explosionsfacts.doc

Greetings all. The information here – about Georgia requesting Russian help in the recent bombings case -- is embargoed until it is officially released in a statement by the Interior Ministry in Tbilisi, which is scheduled about 4 p.m. local time there on Thursday, December 16, or about 7 a.m. ET. The statement to be released is attached and below; also attached is a fact sheet on the explosions put out last week by Interior..

On background, and just to add a bit of elevation and context: Georgia's outreach to Russia requesting help in the case continues Tbilisi's efforts to engage Moscow in a mutually respectful dialogue to peacefully settle their differences. This includes Georgia's very detailed engagement plan for improving ties between Georgia and the regions of Abkhazia and South Ossetia, its recent pledge not to use force in resolving the dispute with Russia over those regions, and the cooperative tone President Saakashvili adopted when the bombing arrests were first announced last week. The Saakashvili administration is trying very hard to lower the temperature with Russia and get relations back on a path of cooperation. I hope you'll consider this if and when you write about Thursday's announcement.

If you would like additional information or comment, please contact deputy interior minister Eka Zguladze at +995.77.900.999. And I of course am available if you need any assistance.

Hope you have a safe holiday and manage to get some time with your families. Cheers.....John Anderson/Podesta

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This email was sent by The Podesta Group, which provides representation for the country of Georgia. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, DC

MSD/CES/REGISTRATION UNIT
2010 DEC 16 AM 11:37

GOVERNMENT OF GEORGIA

EMBARGOED UNTIL: Thursday, December 16, 2010 • 16:00 Tbilisi Time

Georgia Formally Requests Russia's Cooperation in Bombings Investigation, Transfers Case File via Swiss Seeks return of two Georgians implicated in the bombings and the questioning of Russian major at center of attacks

Tbilisi, Dec. 16—The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) yesterday evening conveyed to Russian authorities the details of the investigation into a series of five bombings in Georgia this fall. The MFA transferred the case file as part of a formal request for assistance from Russian authorities in investigating the attacks. The Government of Georgia has said that the cooperation of Russia is critical in helping to solve what is considered a case of terrorism.

The attacks took place between September and November of this year and targeted the US embassy, railway stations, and the Labor Party headquarters in Tbilisi.

08.10.2010 80:56:43	79407147883	858218094
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**Explosion near the central railway station in Tbilisi
21.10.2010**

Date and Time	Call Initiator	Call Receiver
19.10.2010 20:32:07	79407147883	858218094
20.10.2010 07:56:28	79407147883	858218094
22.10.2010 19:26:37	79407147883	858218094
23.10.2010 80:36:15	79407147883	858218094
23.10.2010 13:55:05	79407147883	858218094

**Explosion near the Labour Party office in Tbilisi
28.11.2010**

Date and Time	Call Initiator	Call Receiver
08.11.2010 19:36:35	79407147883	858218094
08.11.2010 20:11:20	79407147883	858218094
08.11.2010 20:20:50	79407147883	858218094
15.11.2010 21:59:25	79407137616	858218094
17.11.2010 18:10:48	79407147883	858218094